

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 091069

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO

SUBJECT: WASHINGTON NATO SUMMIT: SCHEDULE AND
ORGANIZATION

1. THE FOLLOWING IDEAS FOR ORGANIZING THE NATO SUMMIT
MAY BE PRESENTED FOR DISCUSSION IN THE MANNER YOU DEEM
BEST. THEY REFLECT PRELIMINARY PREFERENCES OF THE US
GOVERNMENT, AND HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED ON THAT BASIS AT
THE HIGHEST LEVEL. IN MAKING FIRM DECISIONS, THE
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PRESIDENT WILL WANT TO TAKE FULL ACCOUNT OF ALLIED
VIEWS.

2. THE SUMMIT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AN INTEGRATED WHOLE,
BUT WOULD BE DIVIDED INTO TWO MAIN AREAS, WHITH POLITICAL
ISSUES CONSIDERED ON THE FIRST DAY, AND MILITARY ISSUES
CONSIDERED ON THE SECOND DAY. (FYI ONLY: THE RELATION-

SHIP OF THIS DIVISION TO PARTICIPATION BY THE FRENCH AND POSSIBLY THE GREEKS WILL BE OBVIOUS. END FYI.)

3. THE FIRST DAY WOULD BEGIN WITH AN OPENING CEREMONY, AT WHICH THE PRESIDENT, THE SECRETARY GENERAL, AND THE HONORARY PRESIDENT PRESUMABLY WOULD SPEAK. OUR PREFERENCE IS FOR THIS TO BE AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

(FYI. THE PRESIDENT HAS INDICATED THIS AS HIS CLEAR PREFERENCE. HOWEVER, WE STILL HAVE THE KENNEDY CENTER RESERVED AS A POSSIBILITY FOR THE OPENING SESSION). FOLLOWING THIS OPENING SESSION, THERE WOULD BE GENERAL DISCUSSION BY OTHER HEADS OF DELEGATION. (FYI: AS WE HAVE INDICATED IN PREVIOUS CABLES, HOWEVER, WE SEE AN ADVANTAGE IN GETTING AWAY FROM FORMAL SET SPEECHES, IF THE ALLIES CAN BE CONVINCED TO GO THAT WAY, BUT DO NOT PLACE HIGH HOPES ON ACHIEVING THAT GOAL). FOR HIMSELF, THE PRESIDENT IS PLANNING TO SPEAK FOR NO MORE THAN 7 TO 10 MINUTES. (FYI: YOU SHOULD ATTEMPT TO USE THIS FACT TO INFLUENCE OTHER HEADS OF STATE/GOVERNMENT TO KEEP THEIR INITIAL PRESENTATIONS LIMITED.)

4. THIS SESSION WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY A LUNCH AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT, HOSTED BY THE PRESIDENT, AND INCLUDING ONLY HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT PLUS THE SECRETARY GENERAL. A SEPARATE LUNCH FOR THE OTHERS WILL ALSO
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BE HELD AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT. THIS LUNCH WOULD BE RESPONSIVE TO THE IDEA FOR AN INFORMAL SESSION, ADVANCED BY PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU IN LONDON. IT COULD COVER THE GLOBAL SCENE.

5. DURING THE FIRST AFTERNOON, THE INFORMAL SESSION WOULD CONTINUE, INCLUDING FOREIGN MINISTERS. (FYI: WE RECOGNIZE THAT IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO KEEP THIS SESSION LIMITED TO HEADS OF STATE/GOVERNMENT AND FOREIGN MINISTERS, BUT THIS IS THE PRESIDENT'S PREFERENCE). WHILE INFORMAL, HOWEVER, THIS SESSION WOULD USE THE EAST-WEST STUDY AND APPROPRIATE ELEMENTS OF DEFENSE PROCUREMENT COOPERATION AS BACKGROUND. IN ANY EVENT, WE ASSUME THAT ISSUES TO BE COVERED IN ANY GATHERING OF THIS NATURE WOULD HEAVILY INVOLVE ISSUES RAISED BY THE EAST-WEST STUDY.

6. THAT FIRST EVENING, THERE WOULD BE A WHITE HOUSE DINNER. (FYI: WE WOULD APPRECIATE MISSION'S VIEWS ON THE NATURE AND LIST OF INVITEES FOR THIS DINNER.)

7. SECOND DAY. THE SECOND DAY'S SESSIONS WOULD AGAIN

BE HELD AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT, AND DEAL WITH THE LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM. (FYI: WE EXPECT DEFENSE MINISTERS WILL WISH TO ATTEND THIS SESSION. WHAT IS MISSION'S ESTIMATE ON INTEREST IN ATTENDANCE BY FOREIGN MINISTERS AS WELL?) THE MORNING SESSION MIGHT INCLUDE A BRIEF PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ON US DEFENSE POLICY. (FYI: HE HAS NOT YET GIVEN FINAL APPROVAL

FOR THIS STATEMENT); PLUS THE FOLLOWING: A PRESENTATION ON SOVIET MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS; A BRIEFING ON THE STATUS OF THE LTDP AND OF REMAINING ISSUES WORTHY OF HEAD OF STATE/GOVERNMENT ATTENTION; AND A START OF DISCUSSION SPECIFIC LTDP ISSUES. (FYI: WE ASSUME MOST APPROPRIATE PERSON TO DO THIS BRIEFING WOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

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IS INTELLIGENCE CHIEF AND WOULD APPRECIATE MISSION'S VIEWS ON THIS QUESTION.)

8. THE SECOND DAY'S LUNCH AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT WOULD BE INFORMAL, AND COULD COVER GENERAL DEFENSE PERSPECTIVES.

9. THE AFTERNOON SESSION WOULD BE DEVOTED TO A STRUCTURED DISCUSSION OF MAJOR LTDP ISSUES. WE ALSO ANTICIPATE MORE SPECIFIC DISCUSSION ON ARMAMENTS COLLABORATION THAT WOULD PROPERLY RELATE TO THE SECOND DAY'S DISCUSSIONS.

10. PLEASE REPORT TO US ON ALLIED REACTIONS TO THESE SUGGESTIONS. WE WILL SEND YOU WEEK OF APRIL 10 WASHINGTON'S IDEAS ABOUT THE STRUCTURE AND GENERAL CONTENT OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS, PLUS ANY FURTHER IDEAS OR INITIATIVES ON WHICH WE WOULD WANT ALLIED COMMENT.

11. FYI ONLY: AS INDICATED PUBLICLY ON APRIL 8, THE PRESIDENT WILL, IF DETAILS CAN BE WORKED OUT, RECEIVE PRESIDENT GISCARD BRIEFLY IN WASHINGTON PRIOR TO THE SUMMIT AND DURING PRESIDENT GISCARD'S VISIT TO THE UNSSOD. THE ONLY OTHER BILATERAL VISIT WITH THE PRESIDENT THAT IS BEING CONSIDERED IS WITH CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT. BECAUSE OF LIMITATIONS ON THE PRESIDENT'S TIME, YOU SHOULD DISCOURAGE APPROACHES BY OTHER ALLIES TO WASHINGTON FOR OTHER BILATERAL MEETINGS WITH THE PRESIDENT. END FYI.

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